

I. Amendments to the Specification

Between paragraphs [0053] and [0054] please insert the following paragraph.

The beads or microspheres used in connection with the present invention are rigid, open-pore, chemically and biologically inert particles with the impregnant held inside the pores by capillary forces. The pores are interconnected and open to the particle surface to an extent that substantially full communication is provided between the internal pore space and the exterior of the particle.

Between paragraphs [0054] and [0055], please insert the following two paragraphs:

Generally speaking, it has been found that it is preferable for the bead to have a diameter from about 10 microns to about 100 microns, and have a calculated cross-linking in excess of about 10%. The active ingredient should comprise between approximately 5% to approximately 60% of the total weight of the composition or delivery vehicle comprising the polymeric bead and the active ingredient.

When a retinoid is the active ingredient the retinoid impregnant, whether it be pure (solid) active ingredient, a mixture of active ingredients or a solution of active ingredient, will generally comprise between approximately 1% and approximately 20% of the total weight of the impregnated beads, usually being from about 1% to 2.5% of the total weight.